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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H04N1/21 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both natio mal classification and IPC Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H04N Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category ° EP 0 984 614 A (CASIO COMPLITER CO LTD) 1,3,20 A 8 March 2000 (2000-03-08) paragraph '0001! - paragraph '0045!; figures 1-5 1,3,20 Α EP 0 859 511 A (SONY CORP) 19 August 1998 (1998-08-19) column 6, line 56 - column 8, line 37 1,3,20 US 2002/001035 A1 (HANEDA KAZUHIRO) Α 3 January 2002 (2002-01-03) paragraph '0043! - paragraph '0048!; figure 4 1,3,20 US 5 751 350 A (TANAKA SATOMI) A 12 May 1998 (1998-05-12) claims; figures Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "I" later document published after the internation al filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the ap plication but cited to understand the principle or theory un derlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be con sidered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed cannot be considered to involve an invention step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 14/02/2005 1 February 2005 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016 Exner, A

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